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(21) International Application Number: PCT/EP00/02547 (22) International Filing Date: 17 March 2000 (17.03.00) (30) Priority Data: 99302127.8 18 March 1999 (18.03.99) EP (71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): INTERNATIONAL COATINGS LTD. [GB/GB]; Oriol House, 16 Connaught Place, London W2 ZZB (GB). (72) Inventors; and (75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): DAVIES, Gerald, Howard [GB/GB]; 11 Castleton Grove, Jesmond, Newcastle-upon-Tyne NE2 2HD (GB). JACKSON, Paul, Anthony [GB/GB]; 38 Hazelmoor, Hebburn Village, Hebburn, Tyne & Wear (GB). MCCORMACK, Peter, Joseph [GB/GB]; 5 Meldon Terrace, Heaton, Newcastle-upon-Tyne NE6 5XP (GB). BANIM, Fiachra [IE/IE]; 1 Seapoint, Balbriggan, County Dublin (IE). (74) Agent: SCHALKWIJK, Pieter, Cornelis; Akzo Nobel N.V., Intellectual Property Dept. (Dept. AIP), P.O. Box 9300, NL-6800 SB Arnhem (NL).	(81) Designated States: AE, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, CA, CH, CN, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VN, YU, ZA, ZW, ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG). Published <i>With international search report.</i>	
(54) Title: PRIMER COATING OF STEEL		
(57) Abstract The present invention relates to a process for primer coating of steel which is intended to be fabricated and overcoated, in which process the steel is primer coated with a primer coating comprising a silica or silicate binder, wherein the binder comprises an aqueous silica sol or alkali metal silicate having a $\text{SiO}_2/\text{M}_2\text{O}$ mole ratio, where M represents total alkali metal and ammonium ions, of at least 6:1, and that after the primer coating has dried to the extent that it is touch dry it is treated with a solution which increases the film strength of the primer coating.		